

20 June 1978

NW
OLC #78-2362

STAT MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]
Chief, NFAC Congressional Support

STAT FROM : [REDACTED]
ORPA/IID

SUBJECT : Response for Senator Hart on Publicity and
Soviet "Refuseniks"

STAT 1. Yesterday [REDACTED], an IID analyst serving as a
STAT Congressional Fellow, [REDACTED], called to ask whether it was still
the general belief at CIA that publicity helps the cause of Soviet
"refuseniks" (Soviet Jews previously refused exit permits who still
wish to emigrate). Senator Hart, he explained, has been asked
to intercede for such a "refusenik." [REDACTED] needs an informal,
telephoned answer by noon 20 June, and I promised to respond.

2. My response is as follows: the analysts who follow
human rights developments believe the record is mixed. No clear
pattern is evident. Sometimes publicity helps; sometimes it is
counterproductive. In recent months the regime apparently has
been trying to convey the message that publicity generated by
the refuseniks can only hurt them. But many refuseniks themselves
believe otherwise and so stated in a letter to President Carter
last January.

STAT CC:

[REDACTED]
C/IID/ORPA

SIM FOR: [REDACTED]

This call came in directly to an ORPA analyst. In light of the short deadline, I told [REDACTED] to go ahead and answer, but to remind [REDACTED] that the proper channel is via OLC. The response satisfied [REDACTED] nothing in writing is required.

1st
[REDACTED]
Date 20 June 1978